# Nebraska Gamblers Assistance Program (GAP) Fact Sheet

## **About the Gamblers Assistance Program**

The mission of the Gamblers Assistance Program is to reduce the impact of problem gambling in Nebraska through quality and effective education and treatment services.

The program provides funding for the problem gambling helpline (1-800-GAMBLER), treatment services, outreach and awareness services, evaluation and counselor training.

Created in 1992 through legislative action, the Gamblers Assistance Program is administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Behavioral Health.

### **Public Advisory Board**

The Gamblers Assistance Program is advised by the State Committee on Problem Gambling. The Committee is responsible for providing recommendations about the disbursement of funding for treatment and education efforts, the creation and implementation of outreach efforts and the review of evaluation data.

The Committee has twelve members, who are appointed by the governor. As mandated by state law, at least three of the twelve members must be consumers of services.

#### **Program Funding**

The program is funded in part from the state Lottery and the Health Care Cash Fund. Its services are not funded by taxes.

#### **Professional Treatment Services**

All treatment providers in the Gamblers Assistance Program's statewide network are Certified and/or Licensed behavioral health professionals. Many are Certified Compulsive Gambling Counselors (CCGC), as recognized by the Nebraska DHHS Division of Behavioral Health. There are currently counselors statewide who provide treatment services surrounding the following communities: Chadron, Grand Island, Lincoln, Omaha, O'Neill, Nebraska City, Norfolk, North Platte, South Sioux City and more.

Available resources can be found on the DHHS Network of Care website at: http://dhhs.ne.gov/behavioral\_health/Pages/networkofcare\_index.aspx

# **Additional Information**

Information about *Play It Safe*, the GAP public awareness campaign, can be found at: http://www.playitsafe.ne.gov

For more information contact: DHHSPlayitsafe@nebraska.gov